

REMARKS

I. General

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-12 and 14-17 are pending in the application. Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 1, 3-7, 12 and 14-17 are allowed. Applicant hereby traverses the outstanding rejections and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal in light of the remarks and amendments contained herein.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,746,879 to Ma et al. ("Ma").

It is well settled that to anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim. M.P.E.P. § 2131. Moreover, in order for a reference to be anticipatory under 35 U.S.C. § 102 with respect to a claim, "[t]he elements must be arranged as required by the claim." See M.P.E.P. § 2131, citing *In re Bond*, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990). Furthermore, in order for a reference to be anticipatory under 35 U.S.C. § 102 with respect to a claim, "[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the . . . claim." See M.P.E.P. § 2131, citing *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1913 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 8 is amended to recite "the controller maintains a calibration table of VCO output counts, monitored over a set interval, for selected voltage inputs." Support for this amendment can be found in paragraph 18 of the current specification. Ma does not disclose, teach or suggest this element of claim 8.

The Office Action states on page 4, paragraph 2, lines 2-4, that "Ma et al., taken alone or in combination of other references, does not teach or fairly suggest 'monitoring, for each of the voltages, an output count from the VCO over a set interval...'" Applicant asserts that Ma also does not teach that a controller maintains a calibration table of VCO output counts, monitored over a set interval, for selected voltage inputs.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claim 8 and asserts that claim 8 is patentable for, at least, the reason stated above.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 10 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(b) as being unpatentable over Ma. Claims 10 and 11 depend from independent claim 8, and thus inherit all of the limitations of claim 8. As shown above, claim 8 is patentable. Thus, claims 10 and 11 are also patentable for, at least, the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 8.

IV. Summary

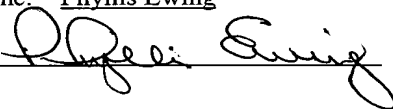
In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for immediate allowance. Applicant therefore requests that the Examiner pass all pending claims to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 200208754-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

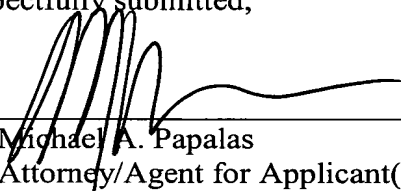
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Date of Deposit: 08/18/2005

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